

MARYLANDERS ARE READY FOR A NEW DIRECTION

Under the leadership of President Bush and his Republican allies in Congress, life has become more difficult for Marylanders. Here are some of the ways that life has become less affordable and secure in Maryland. Democrats are working for real security, better jobs, college access for all, energy independence, affordable health care, and retirement security. It's time for a new direction in Maryland.

INCOME: MARYLANDERS ARE EARNING LESS TODAY THAN THEY WERE FIVE YEARS AGO

- In 2000, the median income in Maryland was \$ 61,486.¹
- In 2005, the median income in Maryland was \$ 59,762, a drop of 2.8 percent.²

HEALTH CARE: THE NUMBER OF UNINSURED IN MARYLAND HAS GROWN UNDER BUSH REPUBLICANS

- In 2000, Maryland had 534,000 adults without insurance, (10.2 percent).³
- In 2005, Maryland had 788,000 adults without insurance, (14.2 percent).⁴
- Maryland had 120,316 children benefit from the SCHIP Program.⁵ If funding is not restored by Congress to the SCHIP program, Maryland will face a funding shortfall of \$64,586,000.⁶

EDUCATION: THE COST OF COLLEGE CONTINUES TO RISE IN MARYLAND

- In 2001, tuition at a public four-year institution in Maryland was \$10,846.⁷ In 2005, it was \$14,108, a 30 percent increase.⁸
- In 2001, tuition at a private four-year institution in Maryland was \$26,034.⁹ In 2005, it was \$30,515, a 17 percent increase.¹⁰
- Number of Marylanders affected by the lapse of the College Tuition Tax Deduction – 90,237¹¹
- Number of Marylanders affected by the lapse of the Educator Expenses Tax Deduction – 72,519¹²

GAS PRICES: THE HIGH COST OF GAS CONTINUES TO BE A BURDEN FOR MARYLAND RESIDENTS

- In 2001, the average cost of gas in Maryland was \$1.426 a gallon.¹³
- Today the average cost of gas in Maryland is \$2.411 a gallon.¹⁴
- In 2001, the average annual cost of gas for a household in Maryland was \$2,071.¹⁵
- Today the average annual cost of gas for a household in Maryland is \$3,502, \$1,431 (69.1 percent) more than it was in 2001.¹⁶

SOCIAL SECURITY: MARYLANDERS DON'T WANT AN END TO SOCIAL SECURITY

- Number of Social Security Beneficiaries in Maryland – 761,160¹⁷
- Average Monthly Benefit per Beneficiary in Maryland – \$895¹⁸

IRAQ, TROOPS AND VETERANS: MARYLANDERS ON THE FRONT LINES

- Number of Marylanders killed in Iraq – 48¹⁹
- Number of Marylanders wounded in Iraq – 273²⁰
- Number of Marylanders killed in Afghanistan – 7²¹
- Number of Marylanders wounded in Afghanistan – 12²²
- Number of Veterans in Maryland – 486,298²³

REPUBLICANS CONTINUE TO PUSH FOR GIVEAWAYS FOR A WEALTHY MINORITY WHILE IGNORING MARYLAND'S MINIMUM WAGE WORKERS

- Only 653 estates in Maryland paid an Estate Tax in 2004.²⁴
- Only 122 estates in Maryland will benefit from the Estate Tax cut in 2009.²⁵

CRIME: FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY POLICING DISAPPEARS

- Amount of COPS Funding Dispersed in 2002 – 10,957,536²⁶
- Amount of COPS Funding Dispersed in 2006 – 3,013,531²⁷

TAX CUTS: BUSH TAX POLICIES BENEFIT THE WEALTHIEST MARYLANDERS

The Bush tax cuts have overwhelmingly benefited the wealthiest Marylanders.

- In 2001, the richest one percent of Maryland residents each received an average of \$2,915 in tax cuts, while middle class Maryland residents received only \$439.²⁸
- In 2006, the richest one percent of Maryland residents will receive an average of \$44,041 in tax cuts, while middle class Maryland residents will only receive \$830.²⁹
- In 2010, under the Bush tax plan, the richest one percent of Maryland residents will each receive an average of \$84,303 in tax cuts, while middle class Maryland residents will only receive \$918.³⁰

The richest Marylanders receive an ever-growing share of the Bush tax cut.

- In 2001, the richest Marylanders received 6.1 percent of the Bush tax cut, while the middle class received 18.1 percent of the tax cut.³¹
- But, in 2006, the richest Marylanders will get 25.4 percent of the Bush tax cut, while the middle class will get 9.6 percent of the tax cut.³²

- And, in 2010, the richest Marylanders will get 49.2 percent of the Bush tax cut, while the middle class will get 10.7 percent of the tax cut.³³

Bush capital gains and dividend tax cuts overwhelmingly benefit the wealthiest Marylanders.

- In 2010, the richest Marylanders will receive an average of \$ 12,894 from the Bush capital gains and dividend tax cuts. That means the richest Marylanders will be getting over 46 percent of all of the tax cut benefit.³⁴
- In contrast, in 2010, middle class Marylanders will receive an average of \$55 from the Bush capital gains and dividend tax cuts. That's just 3.9 percent of the benefit going to the middle class.³⁵

SOURCES

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